

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)	Criminal No.
)	04-10098-WGY
v.)	
)	
MANUEL L. MENDES, CHRISTOPHER)	
T. CUSTER, CARMEN FIGUEROA,)	
DESIREE ALVES, WILLIAM TEJEDA,)	
and JENNIFER PAVAO,)	
)	
Defendants.)	

GOVERNMENT'S PROPOSED JURY INSTRUCTIONS

The United States of America submits the attached jury instructions and proposed verdict form pursuant to Rule 30 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure. The government reserves its right to supplement or modify these requested instructions and proposed verdict form in light of the requests, if any, filed by the defendant and the evidence in the case.

Respectfully submitted,

MICHAEL J. SULLIVAN
United States Attorney

By: /s/ Susan M. Poswistilo
SUSAN M. POSWISTILO
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Assistant U.S. Attorneys

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PROPOSED INSTRUCTION: DUTIES OF THE JURY

Ladies and gentlemen: You now are the jury in this case, and I want to take a few minutes to tell you something about your duties as jurors and to give you some instructions. At the end of the trial I will give you more detailed instructions. Those instructions will control your deliberations.

It will be your duty to decide from the evidence what the facts are. You, and you alone, are the judges of the facts. You will hear the evidence, decide what the facts are, and then apply those facts to the law I give to you. That is how you will reach your verdict. In doing so you must follow that law whether you agree with it or not.

The evidence will consist of the testimony of witnesses, documents and other things received into evidence as exhibits, and any facts on which the lawyers agree or which I may instruct you to accept.

You should not take anything I may say or do during the trial as indicating what I think of the believability or significance of the evidence or what your verdict should be.

Pattern Jury Instructions: **First Circuit**, Criminal Cases
Committee on Pattern Criminal Jury Instructions - First Circuit
1998 Edition.

PROPOSED INSTRUCTION:

NATURE OF INDICTMENT --PRESUMPTION OF INNOCENCE

This criminal case has been brought by the United States government. I will sometimes refer to the government as the prosecution. The government is represented at this trial by Assistant United States Attorneys Susan M. Poswistilo and Nancy Rue. The defendant Manuel Mendes is represented by Thomas Ford, and defendant Carmen Figueroa is represented by John LaChance.

The defendants have been charged by the government with violations of federal law. They are charged with having conspired to distribute, and to possess with intent to distribute, cocaine base, also known as "crack cocaine."

The charges against the defendants are contained in the Superseding Indictment. The Indictment is simply a description of the charges against the defendants; it is not evidence of anything. The defendants pleaded not guilty to the charges against them and deny committing the crimes. They are presumed innocent and may not be found guilty by you unless all of you unanimously find that the government has proven guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

Pattern Jury Instructions: **First Circuit**, Criminal Cases
Committee on Pattern Criminal Jury Instructions - First Circuit
1998 Edition.

PROPOSED INSTRUCTION:

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT OF ELEMENTS OF CRIME

The defendants have been charged by the government with a violation of federal law. Specifically, they have both been charged with conspiracy to possess, with intent to distribute, cocaine base, "crack cocaine".

You should understand, however, that what I have just given you is only a preliminary outline. At the end of the trial I will give you a final instruction on these matters. If there is any difference between what I just told you, and what I tell you in the instruction I give you at the end of the trial, the instructions given at the end of the trial govern.

Pattern Jury Instructions: **First Circuit**, Criminal Cases
Committee on Pattern Criminal Jury Instructions - First Circuit
1998 Edition.

PROPOSED INSTRUCTION:

EVIDENCE; OBJECTIONS; RULINGS; BENCH CONFERENCES

I have mentioned the word "evidence." Evidence includes the testimony of witnesses, documents and other things received as exhibits, and any facts that have been stipulated -- that is, formally agreed to by the parties.

There are rules of evidence that control what can be received into evidence. When a lawyer asks a question or offers an exhibit into evidence, and a lawyer on the other side thinks that it is not permitted by the rules of evidence, that lawyer may object. This simply means that the lawyer is requesting that I make a decision on a particular rule of evidence.

Then it may be necessary for me to talk with the lawyers out of the hearing of the jury, either by having a bench conference here while the jury is present in the courtroom, or by calling a recess. Please understand that while you are waiting, we are working. The purpose of these conferences is to decide how certain evidence is to be treated under the rules of evidence, and to avoid confusion and error. We will, of course, do what we can to keep the number and length of these conferences to a minimum.

Certain things are not evidence. I will list those things for you now:

- (1) Statements, arguments, questions and comments by lawyers

representing the parties in the case are not evidence.

(2) Objections are not evidence. Lawyers have a duty to their client to object when they believe something is improper under the rules of evidence. You should not be influenced by the objection. If I sustain an objection, you must ignore the question or exhibit and must not try to guess what the answer might have been or the exhibit might have contained. If I overrule the objection, the evidence will be admitted, but do not give it special attention because of the objection.

(3) Testimony that I strike from the record, or tell you to disregard, is not evidence and must not be considered.

(4) Anything you see or hear about this case outside the courtroom is not evidence, unless I specifically tell you otherwise during the trial.

Furthermore, a particular item of evidence is sometimes received for a limited purpose only. That is, it can be used by you only for a particular purpose, and not for any other purpose. I will tell you when that occurs and instruct you on the purposes for which the item can and cannot be used.

Finally, some of you may have heard the terms "direct evidence" and "circumstantial evidence." Direct evidence is testimony by a witness about what that witness personally saw or heard or did. Circumstantial evidence is indirect evidence, that is, it is proof of one or more facts from which one can find or

infer another fact. You may consider both direct and circumstantial evidence. The law permits you to give equal weight to both, but it is for you to decide how much weight to give to any evidence.

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Committee on Pattern Criminal Jury Instructions - First Circuit
1998 Edition.

PROPOSED INSTRUCTION: CREDIBILITY OF WITNESSES

In deciding what the facts are, you may have to decide what testimony you believe and what testimony you do not believe. You may believe everything a witness says or only part of it or none of it.

In deciding what to believe, you may consider a number of factors, including the following: (1) the witness's ability to see or hear or know the things the witness testifies to; (2) the quality of the witness's memory; (3) the witness's manner while testifying; (4) whether the witness has an interest in the outcome of the case or any motive, bias or prejudice; (5) whether the witness is contradicted by anything the witness said or wrote before trial or by other evidence; and (6) how reasonable the witness's testimony is when considered in the light of other evidence which you believe.

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Committee on Pattern Criminal Jury Instructions - First Circuit
1998 Edition.

PROPOSED INSTRUCTION: CONDUCT OF THE JURY

To insure fairness, you as jurors must obey the following rules:

First, do not talk among yourselves about this case, or about anyone involved with it, until the end of the case when you go to the jury room to decide on your verdict;

Second, do not talk with anyone else about this case, or about anyone who has anything to do with it, until the trial has ended and you have been discharged as jurors. "Anyone else" includes members of your family and your friends. You may tell them that you are a juror, but do not tell them anything about the case until after you have been discharged by me;

Third, do not let anyone talk to you about the case or about anyone who has anything to do with it. If someone should try to talk to you, please report it to me immediately;

Fourth, during the trial do not talk with or speak to any of the parties, lawyers or witnesses involved in this case -- you should not even pass the time of day with any of them. It is important not only that you do justice in this case, but that you also give the appearance of doing justice. If a person from one side of the lawsuit sees you talking to a person from the other side -- even if it is simply to pass the time of day -- an unwarranted and unnecessary suspicion about your fairness might

be aroused. If any lawyer, party or witness does not speak to you when you pass in the hall, ride the elevator or the like, it is because they are not supposed to talk or visit with you;

Fifth, do not read any news stories or articles about the case or about anyone involved with it, or listen to any radio or television reports about the case or about anyone involved with it;

Sixth, do not do any research, such as consulting dictionaries or other reference materials, and do not make any investigation about the case on your own;

Seventh, if you need to communicate with me simply give a signed note to the court security officer to give to me; and

Eighth, do not make up your mind about what the verdict should be until after you have gone to the jury room to decide the case and you and your fellow jurors have discussed the evidence. Keep an open mind until then.

Pattern Jury Instructions: **First Circuit**, Criminal Cases
Committee on Pattern Criminal Jury Instructions - First Circuit
1998 Edition.

PROPOSED INSTRUCTION: OUTLINE OF THE TRIAL

The first step in the trial will be the opening statements. The government in its opening statement will tell you about the evidence that it intends to put before you, so that you will have an idea of what the government's case is going to be.

Just as the Indictment is not evidence, neither is the opening statement evidence. Its purpose is only to help you understand what the evidence will be and what the government will try to prove.

After the government's opening statement, the defendants' attorneys may, if they so chose, chooses, make an opening statement. At this point in the trial, no evidence has been offered by either side.

Next the government will offer evidence that it says will support the charges against the defendants. The government's evidence in this case will consist of the testimony of witnesses, and may include documents and other exhibits. In a moment I will say more about the nature of evidence.

After the government's evidence, the defendants' lawyers may present evidence in the defendant's behalf, but they are not required to do so. I remind you that the defendants are presumed innocent, and the government must prove the guilt of the defendants beyond a reasonable doubt. The defendants do not have

to prove their innocence.

After you have heard all the evidence on both sides, the government and the defense will each be given time for their final arguments. I just told you that the opening statements by the lawyers are not evidence. The same applies to the closing arguments. They are not evidence either. In their closing arguments the lawyers for the government and the defendants will attempt to summarize and help you understand the evidence that was presented.

The final part of the trial occurs when I instruct you about the rules of law that you are to use in reaching your verdict. After hearing my instructions, you will leave the courtroom together to make your decisions. Your deliberations will be secret. You will never have to explain your verdict to anyone.

Pattern Jury Instructions: **First Circuit**, Criminal Cases
Committee on Pattern Criminal Jury Instructions - First Circuit
1998 Edition.

PROPOSED INSTRUCTION: STIPULATIONS

Throughout the trial the parties have stipulated to facts. This means that both parties agree on the existence of those facts. You should therefore treat those facts as having been proven.

PROPOSED INSTRUCTION: VARIANCE -- DATES

You will note that indictment charges that the conspiracy began "in or about" January 2003 and continued thereafter until March 16, 2004. It does not matter if the indictment charges that specific acts occurred in or around a certain date, and the evidence indicates that, in fact, it was on another date. The law only requires a substantial similarity between the dates alleged in the indictment and the date established by testimony or exhibits.

L. B. Sand, Modern Federal Jury Instructions: Criminal, 53-12 (1990). United States v. Brody, 486 F.2d 291 (8th Cir. 1973), cert. denied, 417 U.S. 949 (1974).

PROPOSED INSTRUCTION: DIRECT AND CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE

There are two types of evidence which you may properly use in deciding whether a defendant is guilty or not guilty.

One type of evidence is called direct evidence. Direct evidence is where a witness testifies to what he saw, heard or observed. In other words, when a witness testifies about what is known to him of his own knowledge by virtue of his own senses -- what he sees, feels, touches or hears -- that is called direct evidence.

Circumstantial evidence is evidence which tends to prove a disputed fact by proof of other facts. There is a simple example of circumstantial evidence which is often used in this courthouse.

Assume that when you came into the courthouse this morning the sun was shining and it was a nice day. Assume that the courtroom blinds were drawn and you could not look outside.

As you were sitting here, someone walked in with an umbrella which was dripping wet. Somebody else then walked in with a raincoat which also was dripping wet.

Now, you cannot look outside of the courtroom and you cannot see whether or not it is raining. So you have no direct evidence of that fact. But, on the combination of facts which I have asked you to assume, it would be reasonable and logical for you to conclude that it had been raining. Inferences are deductions

on conclusions which reason and common sense lead you to draw from the facts as established by the evidence.

That is all there is to circumstantial evidence. You infer on the basis of reason and experience and common sense from an established fact the existence or the nonexistence of some other fact.

Circumstantial evidence is of no less value than direct evidence; for, it is a general rule that the law makes no distinction between direct and circumstantial evidence, but simply requires that before convicting a defendant, the jury must be satisfied of the defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt from all of the evidence in the case. In reaching your verdict it is permissible to draw and rely upon inferences from the evidence.

L. B. Sand, Modern Federal Jury Instruction: Criminal, ¶5-2 (1990).

PROPOSED INSTRUCTION: REASONABLE CONSIDERATION

In coming to your decision, you should consider the evidence the same way all reasonable persons would treat any question presented to them. You are expected to use your good sense, consider the evidence in the case for only those purposes for which it has been admitted, and give it a reasonable and fair construction in light of your common knowledge of the natural tendencies and inclinations of human beings.

Devitt and Blackmar, Federal Jury Practice and Instructions, §§15.01 (3d ed. 1977).

PROPOSED INSTRUCTION: USE OF RECORDINGS AND TRANSCRIPTS

At this time you are going hear conversations that were recorded. This is proper evidence for you to consider. In order to help you, I am going to allow you to have a transcript to read along as the tape is played. The transcript is merely to help you understand what is said on the tape. If you believe at any point that the transcript says something different from what you hear on the tape, remember it is the tape that is the evidence, not the transcript. Any time there is a variation between the tape and the transcript, you must be guided solely by what you hear on the tape and not by what you see in the transcript.

AUTHORITY: Pattern Jury Instructions: **First Circuit**, Criminal Cases Committee on Pattern Criminal Jury Instructions §2.08 (1998 Edition).

PROPOSED INSTRUCTION: BURDEN OF PROOF

In this, as in every criminal case, the government has the burden of proving each defendant guilty of every essential element of the offenses charged beyond a reasonable doubt. The government is not required, however, to prove each defendant guilty beyond all possible doubt. Nor must the government exclude every reasonable hypothesis of innocence so long as the total evidence permits a conclusion of guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The burden of proof never shifts during trial. Except as to certain specific matters that I may discuss with you at the end of the case, the law does not require a defendant to prove his or her innocence or to produce any evidence.

United States v. Gibson, 726 F.2d 869, 874 (1st Cir. 1984).

United States v. Thornley, 707 F.2d 622, 625 (1st Cir. 1983).

PROPOSED INSTRUCTION: INTENT

To act with intent refers to a mental condition or state of mind. Such mental states cannot ordinarily be proved directly for the obvious reason that there is no practical way of being able to look inside a person's mind and find out what is there. Rather, a person's intent may be judged by a person's actions, by what that person says or does, and by the surrounding circumstances. In this connection you may consider any actions undertaken by a defendant and any statements made by him or her and all other facts and circumstances in evidence which bear on the defendants' state of mind.

Devitt and Blackmar, Federal Jury Practice and Instructions, §§14.13 (3d ed. 1977).

PROPOSED INSTRUCTION: MOTIVE

Intent and motive should never be confused. Motive is what prompts a person to act or fail to act. Intent refers to the state of mind with which the act is done or failed to be done. The motive of the accused is immaterial and need not be proved by the government. Rather, evidence regarding motive is relevant only insofar as it sheds light on the intent of the accused.

Devitt and Blackmar, Federal Jury Practice and Instructions, §§14.11 (3d ed. 1977).

PROPOSED INSTRUCTION: CONSPIRACY

As I previously indicated to you, the crime charged in this case is that the defendants conspired with each other and others to possess, with intent to distribute, cocaine base, also known as crack cocaine.

A conspiracy is an agreement or mutual understanding knowingly made or knowingly entered into by at least two persons to violate the law by some joint or common plan or course of action. The gist of the offense is a combination or an agreement to disobey or disregard the law to achieve some unlawful purpose.

The crime of conspiring to violate Title 21, United States Code, Section 846 -- that is, conspiring to distribute illegal drugs -- is independent from the crime of actually distributing the drug. Congress has deemed it appropriate to make conspiracy, standing alone, a separate crime. This is because collective criminal activity poses a greater threat to the public's safety and welfare than individual conduct, and increases the likelihood of a particular venture.

AUTHORITY: Adapted from 1 L.B. Sand, Modern Federal Jury Instructions: Criminal, ¶19.01 (1993). See also, United States v. Flores-Rivera, 56 F.3d 319,324 (1st Cir. 1995)(elements of conspiracy to import cocaine established, absent actual importation of cocaine, where there was knowing and voluntary participation in conspiracy, and intent to effectuate object of conspiracy), citing, United States v. Piper, 35 F.3d 611, 615 (1st Cir. 1994), (defining "intent to commit" object of conspiracy as "an intent to effectuate the commission of the substantive offense. A defendant need not have had the intent to personally commit the substantive crime.")

PROPOSED INSTRUCTION: ELEMENTS OF CONSPIRACY

For you to find the defendants guilty of conspiracy, you must be convinced that the government has proven each of the following things beyond a reasonable doubt with respect to each defendant:

First, that the agreement specified in the Indictment, and not some other agreement or agreements, existed between at least two people to distribute cocaine base, and to possess with intent to distribute, cocaine base; and

Second, that the defendants each willfully joined in that agreement.

PROPOSED INSTRUCTION: EXISTENCE OF A CONSPIRACY

To prove that a conspiracy existed, the government must prove beyond a reasonable doubt that two or more persons entered into the unlawful agreement charged in the Indictment. In Count One, the unlawful purpose or object charged was to distribute and to possess with intent to distribute crack cocaine.

A conspiracy is an agreement, spoken or unspoken. A conspiracy does not have to be a formal agreement or plan in which everyone sat down together and worked out all the details. But the government must prove beyond a reasonable doubt that those who were involved shared a general understanding about the crime.

The government must prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendants knew the essential purpose and aim of the conspiracy and willingly participated with the intent to try and accomplish that purpose. That is, the evidence must show beyond a reasonable doubt that each defendant and at least one other in some way or manner, through some means, came to a mutual understanding to try and accomplish their common unlawful purpose and that they did so knowingly, willfully and intentionally.

In order for you to find that a conspiracy existed, you need not find that the alleged members of the conspiracy met together and entered into any express or formal agreement. Similarly, you need not find that the alleged conspirators stated, in words or

writing, what their scheme was, its object or purpose, or every precise detail of the scheme or the means by which its object or purpose was to be accomplished. It is sufficient if an agreement is shown by conduct, by a wink, a nod, a handshake, or by a silent understanding to share a purpose to violate the law.¹

A conspiracy is, by its very nature, usually secret in its origin and in its execution. Therefore, what the evidence in the case must show beyond a reasonable doubt, in order to establish proof that a conspiracy existed, is that the members in some way or manner, positively or tacitly came to a mutual understanding to try to accomplish a common and unlawful plan. In essence, there must have been an agreement.

Since a conspiracy is by its very nature often secret, neither the existence of the common agreement or scheme, nor the fact of a defendant's participation in it, must be proved by direct evidence; both may be inferred from circumstantial evidence.² The common purpose or plan may be inferred from the course of the

¹ United States v. Sepulveda, 15 F.3d at 1173 ("There are no particular formalities that attend this showing: the agreement may be express or tacit and may be proved by direct or circumstantial evidence."); United States v. Pallindo, 203 F.Supp. 35, 37 (D.Mass.1962) ("An agreement may be shown by conduct, by a wink or a nod, by a silent understanding to share a purpose to violate the law").

² United States v. O'Campo, 973 F.2d 1015, 1019 (1st Cir. 1992) (no need for express agreement; circumstantial evidence sufficient).

dealing between a defendant and another alleged conspirator.³ In this regard, you may, in determining whether an agreement existed herein, consider the actions and statements of all of those you find to be participants as proof that a common design existed on the part of the persons charged to act together for the accomplishment of an unlawful purpose.

AUTHORITY: Adapted from 1 L. Sand, Modern Federal Jury Instructions: Criminal, ¶19-4 (1993).

³ United States v. Rivera-Santiago, 872 F.2d 1073, 1079 (1st. Cir. 1989), cert. denied 104 S.Ct. 3227 (1989) ("Because of the secretive nature of the crime, it is recognized that the agreement may be express or tacit. The agreement, whether tacit or express, may be proven by circumstantial as well as express evidence. A common purpose and plan may be inferred from a development and collocation of circumstances").

PROPOSED INSTRUCTION: MEMBERSHIP IN THE CONSPIRACY

The second element which the government must prove beyond a reasonable doubt to establish the offense of conspiracy, is that Manual Mendes and Carmen Figueroa each knowingly and intentionally became a member of the conspiracy, with the intent to further the unlawful purposes of the conspiracy.

A person acts "knowingly" and "intentionally" if he acts voluntarily and not because of ignorance, mistake, accident or carelessness.⁴

Proof that a defendant simply knew about a conspiracy or was present at times or associated with members of the group is not enough, even if he or she approved of what was happening or did not object to it. Mere associating with others and discussing common goals, mere similarity of conduct between or among such persons, merely being present at the place where a crime takes place or is discussed, or even knowing about criminal conduct does not, by itself, make someone a member of a conspiracy. Similarly, just because a defendant may have done something that happened to help a conspiracy does not make her a conspirator.

It is important for you to note that the defendants' participation in the conspiracy must be established by independent evidence of his or her own acts or statements, as

⁴ Adapted from 1 L.B. Sand, Modern Federal Jury Instructions: Criminal, ¶3A-1 (1993).

well as those of any other alleged co-conspirator, and the reasonable inferences which may be drawn from them.⁵

An individual may be found to be a part of a drug conspiracy even though he did not intend to, and did not, directly participate in actually distributing drugs, and even though he did not know the precise extent of the enterprise.⁶ That is, it is not necessary that the government prove that each member of a conspiracy knew the names, identities or even the number of all of his confederates. Nor does the government need to prove that each member of the conspiracy knew all of the details of the conspiracy.⁷ The government need not prove that the defendants committed the alleged acts so long as the government proves the three elements of the charge of conspiracy beyond a reasonable

⁵ L. Sand, Modern Federal Jury Instructions, ¶19.01 (Ins. 19-6) (1994).

⁶United States v. Piper, 35 F.3d 611, 615 (1st Cir. 1994) citing United States v. Moosey, 735 F.2d 633, 635-36 (1st Cir. 1984) (upholding conviction for conspiracy even though defendant personally had not intended to, and did not, participate in the underlying substantive offense of interstate trafficking). See also, United States v. Rivera-Santiago, 872 F.2d 1073, 1079 (1st Cir.) (an individual could be found to be part of a conspiracy to possess and distribute cocaine even though he neither directly participated in interstate trafficking nor knew the precise extent of the enterprise. The fact that he participated in one . . . link of the distribution chain, knowing it extended beyond his individual role, was sufficient).

⁷Sepulveda, 15 F.3d at 1173 ("in a criminal conspiracy, culpability may be constant though responsibilities are divided; the government does not need to show as a precursor to a finding of guilt that a given defendant took part in all aspects of the conspiracy.").

doubt.⁸ The government must prove, however, that the defendants knew the essential purpose and aim of the conspiracy and willingly participated with the intent to try and accomplish that purpose.⁹ If he or she did, then that person may be charged with what others may have done in execution of those purposes.¹⁰

⁸ United States v. Dannenburg, 980 F.2d 741 (10th Cir. 1992) (numerous decisions recognize that a conspiracy conviction may be supported by evidence of predicate acts different from those alleged in the Indictment as long as no unreasonable surprise to defense); United States v. Bello-Perez, 977 F.2d 664, 669 (1st Cir. 1992) (although overt acts were gratuitously set forth in the Indictment, the government is not limited at trial to proof of the alleged over acts; nor is the Indictment rendered insufficient for failure to plead other overt acts).

⁹ Rivera-Santiago, 872 F.2d at 1079; United States v. Stubbett, 655 F.2d 453, 457 (1st Cir. 1981).

¹⁰ Rivera-Santiago, 872 F.2d at 1079; Angiulo, 847 F.2d at 969.

PROPOSED INSTRUCTION: STAKE IN THE OUTCOME

The extent of a defendant's participation in a conspiracy and the importance of his role in effectuating the purposes of the conspiracy do not determine that defendant's guilt. A conspirator's guilt or innocence is not measured by the extent or duration of his participation. Indeed, each member may perform separate and distinct acts and may perform them at different times. Some conspirators play major roles, while others play minor parts in the scheme. An equal role is not what the law requires. In fact, even a single act may be sufficient to draw a defendant within the gambit of the conspiracy.

Moreover, a person may be found to be a member of a conspiracy whether or not he had a financial stake in the illegal venture. Conspirators may have different motives for participating in a conspiracy.

AUTHORITY: This instruction is adopted from: (1) an instruction given by Judge Keeton in United States v. Forero-Diaz, Criminal Number 88-110-K, pp. 29; and (2) L.B. Sand, Modern Federal Jury Instructions: Criminal, §19-6 (1990).

PROPOSED INSTRUCTION: METHOD OF PROVING KNOWLEDGE

Your decision about whether the defendants knew the essential purpose and aim of the conspiracy involves a decision about their state of mind. It is difficult to prove directly the operation of the defendant's state of mind, but you may consider all the facts and circumstances shown by the evidence, and make reasonable inferences from the evidence, to determine the defendant's state of mind.

Adapted from L. Sand, Modern Federal Jury Instructions: Criminal, ¶56-01, Instr. 56-59 (1993). Devitt & Blackmar, § 28.05; U.S. v. Cintolo, 818 F.2d 980, 1003 (1st Cir. 1987)(mere association not sufficient).

PROPOSED INSTRUCTION: DURATION OF THE CONSPIRACY

Once a conspiracy is formed, it will continue as to each participant until it is either abandoned by its members, its purposes have been fully achieved, or until the individual defendant withdraws.¹¹ Because of the secretive nature of criminal conspiracies, the law presumes that, once established, a criminal conspiracy continues. This means that, if you determined all of the elements of conspiracy have been established by the government beyond a reasonable doubt, then you should presume that the conspiracy remained in existence and that the defendant remained a co-conspirator in it until at least March 16, 2004 (the date of the arrests in this case) unless the

¹¹ E.g., United States v. Salmonese, 352 F.3d 608, 615 (2d Cir. 2003) ("a conspiracy continues until its aim has been achieved, it has been abandoned, or otherwise terminated"); United States v. Roshko, 969 F.2d 1, 11 (2d Cir. 1992); United States v. Angle, 230 F.3d 113, 199 (4th Cir. 2000). See generally Marcus, "Prosecution and Defense of Criminal conspiracy Cases," (Bender 2004) §4.05.

defendants rebut this presumption by producing evidence of an earlier termination or withdrawal.¹²

¹² United States v. May, 343 F.3d 1, 5 (1st Cir. 2003) ("this Court presumes conspiracies exist absent an affirmative showing of their termination"); United States v. Elwell, 984 F.2d 1289, 1293 (1st Cir.1993) ("[w]here a conspiracy contemplates a continuity of purpose and a continued performance of acts, it is presumed to exist until there has been an affirmative showing that it has terminated...."). See also United States v. Piper, 298 F.3d 47 (1st Cir. 2002)(where charged conspiracy involved three drug sales during 13 days, "it was plausible for the court to presume that the conspiracy continued to exist beyond the date of the last reported sale"). Although the arrest a co-conspirator will not necessarily terminate the conspriacy (see,e.g., United States v. Collazo-Aponte, 216 F.3d 163,187 (1st Cir. 2000), the government does not believe that there is any reason for the court or the jury to examine this issue here.

PROPOSED INSTRUCTION:

ACTS AND DECLARATIONS OF CO-CONSPIRATORS

Over the course of the case, I have admitted into evidence certain acts and statements of various individuals because these acts and statements are alleged to have been committed during the course and in furtherance of the conspiracy.

The reason for allowing this evidence to be received against the defendants has to do with the nature of the crime of conspiracy. A conspiracy is often referred to as a partnership in crime. Thus, as in other types of partnerships, when people enter into a conspiracy to accomplish an unlawful end, each and every member becomes an agent for the other conspirators in carrying out the conspiracy.

Accordingly, the reasonably foreseeable acts, declarations, statements and omissions of any member of the conspiracy and in furtherance of the common purpose of the conspiracy, are deemed under the law, to be the acts of all of the members, and all of the members are responsible for such acts, declarations, statements and omissions. This is so even if the acts or statements in question were done or made in the absence of the defendants and without their knowledge.

However, before you consider the statements or acts of a co-conspirator in deciding the issue of the defendants' guilt, you

must first determine that the acts and statements were made during the existence, and in furtherance, of the unlawful scheme. If the acts were done or the statements made by someone whom you do not find to have been a member of the conspiracy or if they were not done or said in furtherance of the conspiracy, they may not be considered by you as evidence against the defendants.

United States v. Petrozziello, 548 F.2d 20, 23 (1st Cir. 1977).

L.B. Sand, Modern Federal Jury Instructions: Criminal, §19-9 (1990); United States v. Angiulo, 847 F. 2d 956, 969 (1st Cir. 1988) ("As long as it is shown that a party, having joined a conspiracy, is aware of the conspiracy's features and general aims, statements pertaining to the details of plans to further the conspiracy can be admitted against the party even if the party does not have specific knowledge of the acts spoken of."). Devitt and Blackmar, Federal Jury Practice and Instructions, §§14.13 (3d ed. 1977).

Proposed Instruction

Submitting the Indictment

I am sending a copy of the superseding indictment into the jury room for you to have during your deliberations. You may use it to read the crime which the defendant is charged with committing. You are reminded, however, that the indictment is merely an accusation and is not to be used by you as any proof of the conduct charged.

L.B. Sand, Modern Federal Jury Instructions: Criminal, ¶9-4 (1990)

PROPOSED INSTRUCTION: PUNISHMENT

The question of possible punishment of the defendants is of no concern to the jury and should not, in any sense, enter into or influence your deliberations. The duty of imposing sentence rests exclusively upon the court. Your function is to weigh the evidence in the case and to determine whether or not the defendants are guilty beyond a reasonable doubt, solely upon the basis of such evidence. Under your oath as jurors, you cannot allow a consideration of the punishment which may be imposed upon the defendants, if they are convicted, to influence your verdict, in any way, or, in any sense, enter into your deliberations.

L. B. Sand, Modern Federal Jury Instructions: Criminal, §9-1 (1990).

PROPOSED INSTRUCTION:

FOREPERSON'S ROLE; UNANIMITY

I come now to the last part of the instructions, the rules for your deliberations.

When you retire you will discuss the case with the other jurors to reach agreement if you can do so. You shall permit your foreperson to preside over your deliberations, and your foreperson will speak for you here in court. Your verdict must be unanimous.

Pattern Jury Instructions: **First Circuit**, Criminal Cases
Committee on Pattern Criminal Jury Instructions - First Circuit
1998 Edition.

PROPOSED INSTRUCTION:

CONSIDERATION OF EVIDENCE

Your verdict must be based solely on the evidence and on the law as I have given it to you in these instructions. However, nothing that I have said or done is intended to suggest what your verdict should be -- that is entirely for you to decide.

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Committee on Pattern Criminal Jury Instructions - First Circuit
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PROPOSED INSTRUCTION

REACHING AGREEMENT

Each of you must decide the case for yourself, but you should do so only after considering all the evidence, discussing it fully with the other jurors, and listening to the views of the other jurors.

Do not be afraid to change your opinion if you think you are wrong. But do not come to a decision simply because other jurors think it is right.

This case has taken time and effort to prepare and try. There is no reason to think it could be better tried or that another jury is better qualified to decide it. It is important therefore that you reach a verdict if you can do so conscientiously. If it looks at some point as if you may have difficulty in reaching a unanimous verdict, and if the greater number of you are agreed on a verdict, the jurors in both the majority and the minority should reexamine their positions to see whether they have given careful consideration and sufficient weight to the evidence that has favorably impressed the jurors who disagree with them. You should not hesitate to reconsider your views from time to time and to change them if you are persuaded that this is appropriate.

It is important that you attempt to return a verdict, but of course, only if each of you can do so after having made your own conscientious determination. Do not surrender an honest

conviction as to the weight and effect of the evidence simply to reach a verdict.

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Committee on Pattern Criminal Jury Instructions - First Circuit
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PROPOSED INSTRUCTION:

RETURN OF VERDICT FORM

I want to read to you now what is called the verdict form. This is simply the written notice of the decision you will reach in this case.

Read verdict form.

After you have reached unanimous agreement on a verdict, your foreperson will fill in the form that has been given to you, sign and date it, and advise the jury officer outside your door that you are ready to return to the courtroom.

After you return to the courtroom, your foreperson will deliver the completed verdict form as directed in open court.

Pattern Jury Instructions: **First Circuit**, Criminal Cases
Committee on Pattern Criminal Jury Instructions - First Circuit
1998 Edition.

PROPOSED INSTRUCTION:

COMMUNICATION WITH THE COURT

If it becomes necessary during your deliberations to communicate with me, you may send a note through the jury officer signed by your foreperson or by one or more members of the jury. No member of the jury should ever attempt to communicate with me on anything concerning the case except by a signed writing, and I will communicate with any member of the jury on anything concerning the case only in writing, or orally here in open court. If you send out a question, I will consult with the parties as promptly as possible before answering it, which may take some time. You may continue with your deliberations while waiting for the answer to any question. Remember that you are not to tell anyone -- including me -- how the jury stands, numerically or otherwise, until after you have reached a unanimous verdict or have been discharged.

Pattern Jury Instructions: **First Circuit**, Criminal Cases
Committee on Pattern Criminal Jury Instructions - First Circuit
1998 Edition.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)	Criminal No. 04-10098-WGY
)	
v.)	
)	
MANUEL L. MENDES AND)	
CARMEN FIGUEROA,)	
)	
Defendants.)	

GOVERNMENT'S PROPOSED VERDICT FORM

1-1. As to Count 1 of the Superseding Indictment charging conspiracy to distribute, and to possess with intent to distribute cocaine base, also known as "crack cocaine," we unanimously find Defendant Manuel Mendes:

_____ Guilty
_____ Not Guilty

1-2. As to Count 1 of the Superseding Indictment charging conspiracy to distribute, and to possess with intent to distribute cocaine base, also known as "crack cocaine," we unanimously find Defendant Carmen Figueroa:

_____ Guilty
_____ Not Guilty

(IF YOU FIND EITHER DEFENDANT MANUEL MENDES OR DEFENDANT CARMEN FIGUEROA GUILTY ON COUNT 1, ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTION. IF YOU DO NOT FIND ANY OF THE DEFENDANTS GUILTY ON COUNT 1, DO NOT ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTION)

1-2. Having found Defendant Manuel Mendes and/or Defendant Carmen Figueroa guilty as to Count 1 of the Indictment, we unanimously find that Count 1 involved the following amounts of cocaine base, also known as crack cocaine:

_____ DID involve 50 grams or more of a mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of cocaine base, also known as crack cocaine

_____ DID NOT involve 50 grams or more of a mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of cocaine base, also known as crack cocaine

(IF YOU FIND THE CONSPIRACY DID INVOLVE 50 GRAMS OR MORE, DO NOT ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTION. IF YOU FOUND THE CONSPIRACY DID NOT INVOLVE 50 GRAMS OR MORE, ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTION).

1-3. Having found Defendant Manuel Mendes and/or Defendant Carmen Figueroa guilty as to Count 1 of the Indictment, we unanimously find that Count 1 involved the following amounts of cocaine base, also known as crack cocaine:

_____ DID involve 5 grams or more of a mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of cocaine

base, also known as "crack" cocaine

_____ DID NOT involve 5 grams or more of a
mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of
cocaine base, also known as crack cocaine.

Signed this __ day of May, 2005.

FOREPERSON